

13 June 1952

STAT

[Redacted]
During the absence of General Smith, I wish to acknowledge your letter of June 15 which was addressed to him.

In view of your desire to offer your services to the mission in India, may I suggest that you write to Ambassador Chester Bowles, care of the Department of State, Washington 25, D. C.?

Sincerely,

[Redacted]
Executive Assistant
to the Director

ST

lec
Distribution:
Signer's chrono
reading
official w/ basic

STAT

Gen. Walter Bedell Smith
Chief of C.I.A.
Washington, D.C.

6/15/52^v

Dear General,

I do not know whether I have ever expressed my thanks to you for your most perceptive recanting of your Moscow stay ~~several~~ years back, which I read in the N.Y. Times. Further, it was in my opinion, superbly written, and I was astounded that a military man should write so well.

Knowing your ability as a perceivin', I wish to draw your attention to this.

About two days ago I read that Panayotkin USSR ambassador was leaving the U.S. I was struck by one think he said - providing the newspapers quoted him correctly (and I believe they did). He said he was now coming back to the U.S. At that time it was still not announced he was going to China, but I have no doubt

(2)

Approved For Release 2003/06/13 : CIA-RDP80R01731R003100020024-4

to know. Now why is the word "our" important?

Surely, that he already knew there would be no re-interviews of any kind when he was through with his China mission. Certainly no Soviet diplomat is in a position to decide whether he will be placed here, there, or anywhere. Therefore, he let out of his subconscious mind, something he already knew. I feel that this has considerable significance and more so if it is part of a larger pattern which you may have.

I also recall that about a year and a half ago ^(or more) Mr. Vishinsky inadvertently suggested a next meeting (I am not certain now just what meeting) be held in Moscow. The head of U.N. Mr. ^{Nyga} Lee, the Norwegian, among others, pressed Vishinsky for a date. He was embarrassed and tried to evade it. Finally he said 1953 - and I got the impression that he felt there would never be any reason to hold such a meeting then. The date may or may not have significance - because he pondered considerably before finally answering. However I got the impression it was a joker's date - so to speak. This also may have significance.

(3)

I do not know whether you have any contacts with Chester Bowles, who is administrator of economic aid to India, but I should like to see him relative to possibly joining his mission in my small way. I am a statistician by occupation and could give service mainly in this field or an administrative field.

My reason for interest in India is because of my great interest in its spiritual culture, which is very high. I have been a devoted reader for 20 years or more of its great classic - the Bhagavad Gita.

I feel of the numerous Americans (leaving out the technical experts) who are on the Indian economic aid mission, there would be few if any - who would feel the pulse and heart of India, as I have - though I grant times change, and people may be removed in their thoughts from their sacred writings.

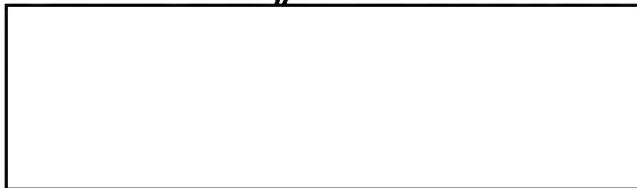
In closing let me say, that I still clearly recall your rendering of the Easter service I believe in a Moscow cathedral - ~~Approved for Release 2003/06/13 : CIA-RDP80R031R003100020024-4~~ ^{Approved for Release 2003/06/13 : CIA-RDP80R031R003100020024-4} Federation

4

all in an atmosphere of rigid temperature -
but evidently deep warm devotion in the
hearts of the congregation.

I am,

Sincerely yours,



STAT